



Iowa Adult Education and Literacy
2015 Regional COABE Conference

Kaleidoscope of Collaboration

Hosted by the Iowa Department of Education in conjunction
with the Commission on Adult Basic Education

July 15-17, 2015

Conference Naming Sponsors



Conference Partner



Other Contributors



Thank you!



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Schedule at a Glance

Wednesday, July 15th

Registration
12:00 – 1:00 PM
Pre-Conference
General Session
Fierce Conversations
1:00 – 4:00 PM

Thursday, July 16th

Registration and Breakfast
8:00 – 9:00 AM
Call to Conference
General Session
9:00 – 9:30 AM
Break Out Session #1
9:45 – 10:30 AM
Break Out Session #2
10:45 – 11:30 AM
Lunch
General Session
11:30 AM – 12:15 PM
Keynote
12:30 PM – 1:45 PM
Break Out Session #3
2:00 – 2:45 PM
Break Out Session #4
3:00 – 3:45 PM
Vendor Reception
3:45 – 5:00 PM

Friday, July 17th

Registration and Breakfast
8:00 – 8:30 AM
Break Out Session #5
8:30 – 9:15 AM
Break Out Session #6
9:30 – 10:15 AM
Morning Break
10:15 – 10:45 AM
Break Out Session #7
10:45 – 11:30 AM
Lunch & Capstone
General Session
11:30 AM – 1:00 PM
Networking Activity
General Session
1:00 – 2:00 PM

Welcome

Welcome from the Conference Chairs

Welcome to the 2015 Iowa Adult Education and Literacy Conference. This year's planning committee would like to extend a warm Iowa welcome to our neighbors visiting from around the region! We are thrilled that Iowa was chosen to host this year's Adult Education and Literacy Regional COABE Conference. Our theme, "Kaleidoscope of Collaboration," was based on the idea to provide an environment where conference participants can establish new relationships or rekindle existing friendships while gathering new ideas from colleagues. The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014 was the guiding factor in our vision for this year's conference to launch a "new beginning" to service delivery. Like looking through a kaleidoscope, we now are being asked to "blend" together by partnering our services through collaboration to meet the needs of those we serve. Knowing that this conference comes on the heels of the July 1st WIOA implementation, it was our aspiration to provide attendees new ideas during their transition to enhance and streamline services for students, participants, or clients while showcasing concerted efforts already taking place.

Throughout the next few days, sessions will provide a plethora of information, including technology uses in the classroom, managing difficult conversations, and career pathway initiatives, all in hopes of a more collaborative partnership between service providers. The speakers have been strategically chosen to increase awareness and provide direction to the task set before us. As educators and service providers, we are at a time of transition, where it is more important than ever to be efficient and effective for the sake of those we serve. We would like to remind you to please complete the online evaluation after the conference and provide any feedback on improvements to future conferences. So, we ask that you sit back, be creative, and enjoy the colors of the kaleidoscope!

Elizabeth Campbell—Co-chair

Jennifer Wilson—Co-chair

Dan Bubon

Brenda Hampton

Barb Scholtens

Ann Waynar

Brett Monaghan

Brandi Parsons



Welcome from the Iowa State Director

Welcome to Ames, Iowa!

On behalf of the Iowa Department of Education, I would like to welcome you to the 2015 Iowa Adult Education and Literacy Regional COABE Conference. The conference committee has been working hard to bring you a wonderful event, both in terms of content and networking opportunities. I am sure you will notice that the doors have been flung wide open to invite all interested stakeholders to attend and to learn together. I believe each of you will experience meaningful professional development opportunities addressing a wide range of local and state needs. With new federal priorities and initiatives, it is vital that we meet and plan together to identify challenges, find best practices, and plan for the future.

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

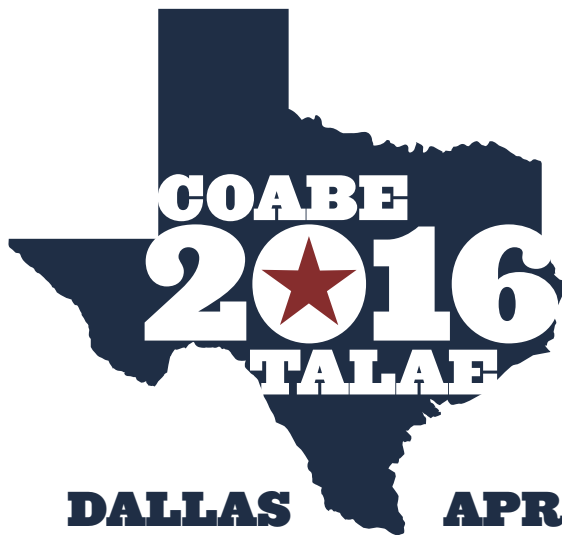
- The committee and stakeholders who invested countless hours of their time, effort, and energy in planning and executing this conference
- COABE, Dollar General, BurlingtonEnglish®, and other sponsors and vendors for sharing their resources that helped the committee to plan such a fantastic conference
- Kirkwood Community College, in particular Brenda Ireland, who assisted with the registration for this year's conference
- Capture Marketing LLC for all publications and public awareness efforts for the conference

National presenters, surrounding state specialists, and local practitioners will exceed our professional development needs with sessions that will inform and energize you, give you relevant information and inspire you, and provide resources to make the upcoming year successful. While you are here, I hope you will find time to enjoy the Ames area. Have a wonderful conference.

Sincerely,

Alex Harris

Iowa Adult Education and Literacy State Director



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National Conference Strands

Adult Basic Education • Administration • Community Ed • Continuing Higher Education • Corrections • Digital Literacy • Distance Education
ESL/ELL • Family Literacy • GED/Post Secondary Credential
Learning Difficulties/Disabilities • Literacy • Numeracy • Professional Development • Public Policy/Advocacy • Technology • Testing
Preparation • Transitions/Pathways

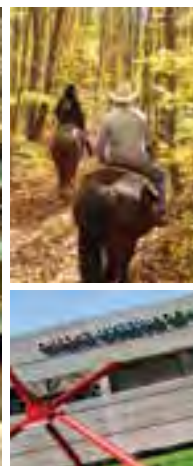
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details and updates!***



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country's most beautiful states!*



Presented in partnership by:
The Commission on Adult Basic Education
(COABE) and The Texas Association for
Literacy and Adult Education (TALAE)
Contact: COABE Conference 2016
E-mail: info@coabe.org Fax: 866-941-5129
Phone: 888-44-COABE



#COABE16

THESE ARE FIERCE CONVERSATIONS

Wednesday, July 15

1:00 – 4:00 PM

Learn how relationships are built one conversation at a time. Great conversations are essential to becoming a great leader.

Fierce workshop attendees learn to ignite productive dialog that interrogates reality, provokes learning, resolves tough challenges, and enriches relationships. It's the place to begin, the cornerstone of great leadership, healthy cultures, intelligent strategies, and whole-hearted execution.

This isn't a lecture. This is a highly interactive workshop invoking "real-play" where participants use actual scenarios from their lives to practice. This creates immediate relevance and actionable items for participants so when they leave a workshop they are fully prepared to have a Fierce conversation.

Anne Morgan and Joel Pedersen have learned that trust is essential in collaborative environments. They have also learned that conflict occurs and can even be beneficial when handled appropriately. Both educators will share experiences on how this can occur.

What is a FIERCE CONVERSATION?

The simplest definition of a Fierce conversation is one in which authentic, honest, and direct conversations take place. While many fear real conversations, it is the overlooked conversations that ought to concern us. They are incredibly expensive.

Use FIERCE CONVERSATION To:

- Address attitudinal, behavioral, or performance issues
- Confront tough issues with confidence and skill
- Clarify what is at stake if nothing changes
- Enrich relationships through honest, respectful discussion

Conference Schedule

Wednesday, July 15				
12:00 – 1:00 PM	Registration	Entrance Hall		
1:00 – 4:00 PM	General Session	*	Pre-Conference: Fierce Conversations	
Thursday, July 16				
8:00 – 9:00 AM	Registration and Breakfast	*		
9:00 – 9:30 AM	General Session	**	Call to Conference	
9:45 – 10:30 AM	Break Out Session #1	204/208	➤ Working Together to Implement a New WIOA System Vision (Part 1)	
		250	➤ Education and the Crossing of Socio-Economic Lines	
		254	➤ Financial Literacy: Preparing the Adult Student	
		260	➤ Creating Connections to College and Career Readiness (Part 1)	
		252	➤ Be Social: Social Media in the Classroom	
		262	➤ Working Together: Iowa Core Employability Skills	
		275	➤ Standardized Reading Test Success	
		299	➤ Expanding Where and When Students Learn: Distance and Blended Learning	
10:45 – 11:30 AM	Break Out Session #2	204/208	➤ Working Together to Implement a New WIOA System Vision (Part 2)	
		250	➤ The Power of Facilitation	
		254	➤ Breaking Down Barriers to College	
		260	➤ Creating Connections to College and Career Readiness (Part 2)	
		252	➤ Collaboration through Technology: Efforts to Align Curriculum and CCRS	
		262	➤ Standards in Action—LITERALLY! (Part 1)	
		275	➤ ETS, HiSET Updates	
		299	➤ Developing Education Through Cooperation	
11:30 AM – 12:15 PM	Lunch and General Session	*		
12:30 PM – 1:45 PM	Keynote	**	Byron T. Embry, speaker <i>The Closer</i>	
2:00 – 2:45 PM	Break Out Session #3	204/208	➤ Building the WIOA System and Center Partnership (Part 1)	
		250	➤ Engaging a HiSET® Classroom (Part 1)	
		254	➤ Collaboration	
		260	➤ Connecting Collaborative Classroom Language and Workplace Soft Skills	
		252	➤ REBOOT Your Digital Strategy (Part 1)	
		262	➤ Standards in Action—LITERALLY! (Part 2)	
		275	➤ Workshop for Mathematics CCR Standards in Action (Part 1)	
		299	➤ Understanding Ourselves and Others Through REAL Colors (Part 1)	

* General Sessions are held in rooms 220, 230, and 240.

** The Call to Conference & Keynote address will be held in the first floor auditorium.

Key

- Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act
- Adult Basic Education
- English Language Learners
- Technology
- High School Equivalency Diploma
- Career Pathway
- College & Career Readiness Standards

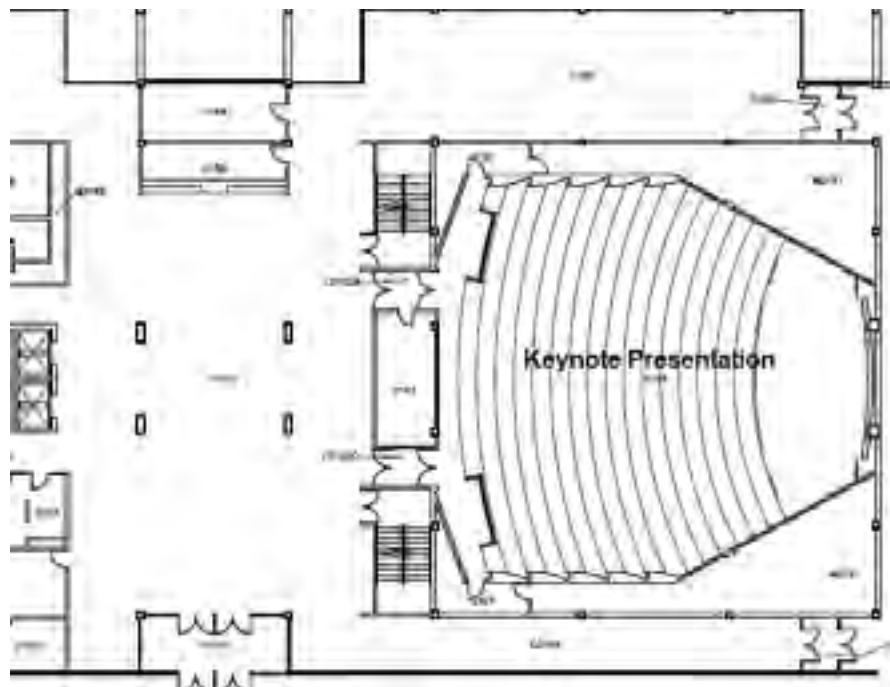
Thursday, July 16 continued			
3:00 – 3:45 PM	Break Out Session #4	204/208	➤ Building the WIOA System and Center Partnership (Part 2)
		250	➤ Engaging a HiSET® Classroom (Part 2)
		254	➤ How to Teach so Students Remember
		260	➤ Let’s Start at the Very Beginning—Alphabetics
		252	➤ REBOOT Your Digital Strategy (Part 2)
		262	➤ Working Together: Iowa Core Employability Skills (REPEAT)
		275	➤ Workshop for Mathematics CCR Standards in Action (Part 2)
		299	➤ Understanding Ourselves and Others Through REAL Colors (Part 2)
3:45 – 5:00 PM	Vendor Reception	Entrance Hall	
Friday, July 17th			
8:00 – 8:30 AM	Registration and Breakfast	*	
8:30 – 9:15 AM	Break Out Session #5	204/208	➤ Partnering to Deliver WIOA Career Services (Part 1)
		250	➤ BurlingtonEnglish: An Official CASAS Preparation Course
		254	➤ Here Today, Gone Tomorrow: Learner Persistence
		260	➤ Five Tasks to Connect ESL Reading and Writing Skills
		252	➤ Infographics: Developing a Critical Mindset Towards Data (Part 1)
		262	➤ Algebra! Algebra! Algebra! Preparing for the New HSE Assessments
		275	➤ Accelerated Opportunities Framework: How Do We Make Career Pathways Our Own?
		299	➤ Understanding Ourselves and Others Through REAL Colors (REPEAT—Part 1)
9:30 – 10:15 AM	Break Out Session #6	204/208	➤ Partnering to Deliver WIOA Career Services (Part 2)
		250	➤ Lessons Learned in Career Pathways
		254	➤ Learning Vocabulary
		260	➤ Rebooting Iowa’s Literacy Council
		252	➤ Infographics: Developing a Critical Mindset Towards Data (Part 2)
		262	➤ Living in America—What Every Immigrant Needs to Know...
		275	➤ Lessons Learned From Pilot I-BEST CNC
		299	➤ Understanding Ourselves and Others Through REAL Colors (REPEAT—Part 2)
10:15 – 10:45 AM	Morning Break		
10:45 – 11:30 AM	Break Out Session #7	204/208	➤ Benchmarks and Promising Practices
		250	➤ On the Road to Career Pathway Success
		254	➤ Hybrid ELL: Lessons Learned from Pilot Course
		260	➤ Career Extensions
		252	➤ Infographics: Developing a Critical Mindset Towards Data (Part 3)
		262	➤ Learn the Key to Cracking the Code of Social Studies
		275	➤ A Triple Crown of Technology Resources for ABE
		299	➤ ETS, HiSET® Updates (REPEAT)
11:30 AM– 1:00 PM	Lunch & Capstone General Session	*	Archie Willard, speaker <i>Last Reader Standing</i>
1:00 – 2:00 PM	General Session	*	Networking Activity

Scheman Center Map

Second Floor Map



First Floor Map





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Sessions

Session #1

Thursday, July 16 9:45 – 10:30 AM

Be Social: Social Media in the Classroom

presented by Kathy Tracey

Social media is everywhere, but how do you harness the power of social media to engage students in the program? How do you develop a network of resources that are available at the click of a button? Join this interactive presentation, talk with your peers, and walk away with time-saving ideas you can use immediately.



Creating Connections to College and Career Readiness (Part 1)

presented by Sylvia Ramirez

College and career readiness in adult education starts within the ESL classroom. Participants in this session explore seven instructional strategies that focus on planning instruction for navigating complex text, acquiring academic vocabulary, citing textual evidence, and building knowledge from informational text. These are the key shifts in the CCR ELA Standards.



Education and the Crossing of Socio-Economic Lines

presented by Melynda DeCarlo and Tammy Rogers

If you've watched the news lately you know that people from different socio-economic groups can see the same situation and have access to the same data yet come to a very different set of conclusions.

Research performed by Ruby K. Payne, Ph.D., reveals that these filters can impact a student's ability to succeed. Yet when teachers and advisors understand the different socio-economic filters, recognize that these filters are neither right nor wrong, and develop stronger relationships with their students, they will improve the students' ability to successfully navigate outside of their own socio-economic groups.



Expanding Where and When Students Learn: Distance and Blended Learning With BurlingtonEnglish

presented by Robert Brietbard and Margo Hernandez

What can dramatically boost your success in distance learning? For many programs around the country the answer is clear: BurlingtonEnglish. BurlingtonEnglish provides the utmost in on-demand help for students to truly work independently whenever and wherever they are studying. How about giving teachers a wealth of resources to seamlessly blend in-class learning with lab or off-site study? BurlingtonEnglish's projectable lessons, printable worksheets, and lesson plans are your go-to solution. And BurlingtonEnglish fits perfectly in your distance and blended learning programs whether you're emphasizing contextualized learning in career pathways, EL/Civics, or readiness for success on assessments like CASAS. Come learn how all of this, along with easy-to-use data collection and reporting, make BurlingtonEnglish the solution to make your great programs even greater.



Financial Literacy: Preparing the Adult Student for Financial Responsibility and Self-Sufficiency in the Modern World

presented by Brenda Hampton, Scott Wittstruck, Genae Ewing, and Mary Weinand

This three-week course on financial literacy and its capstone financial fair event introduce the diverse issues relating to financial responsibility, giving a student who participates in this program a much more savvy comprehension of what it means to be truly financially literate in the modern world.



Standardized Reading Test Success: It's Not How Well You Read That Counts; it's the Number of Questions You Answer Correctly

presented by Brenda Hack

Give your students permission to NOT read the whole reading test but instead read critically, adapting SAT's C.H.A.R.T. method to improve their performance on the HiSET reading test. This session will describe and model the C.H.A.R.T. method for standardized reading test, allowing you to develop strategies to improve student performance and reduce test anxiety.



Working Together: Iowa Core Employability Skills, Adult Education CCR Standards, and the CTE Employability Skills Framework

presented by Michelle Carson

What do these three have in common? As an adult education teacher, how do you integrate them and make sure you are preparing your learners for success? This session will provide an introduction to each of these three components for developing 21st century skills in your adult learners. Participants will learn more about the relevant parts of each and identify what they need to move forward with planning instruction that is designed to prepare learners for entering careers and/or postsecondary education—even while attending adult education classes!



Working Together to Implement a New WIOA System Vision (Part 1)

presented by Greg Newton

Congress and the administration have big expectations for a revitalized workforce system—how will Iowa respond? Learn the five major WIOA themes and change drivers and how you will want (and need) to collaborate to meet the expectations to:

- Enhance partnerships and strengthen program alignment
- Increase system, program, and service access
- Achieve skills and credentials and employment outcomes
- Develop career pathways for workers to support industry talent pipelines
- Seek employer engagement and identify work-based learning opportunities



Session #2

Thursday, July 16 10:45 – 11:30 AM

Breaking Down Barriers to College: The Transition Program at Hawkeye Community College's Metro Center

presented by Anna Laneville

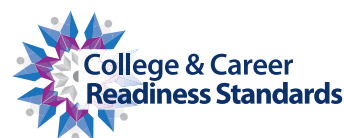
According to the U.S. Department of Education, "Promising practices must be pursued . . . to make transition services available and effective" for students in adult basic education programs. At this relevant and engaging session, participants will learn about the transition program at Hawkeye Community College's Metro Center. Hawkeye's Transition Specialist serves students in the English Language Learning (ELL) and High School Completion (HSC) programs who are transitioning to college, including students with bachelor's and master's degrees from other countries. Metro encourages students to consider the next step in their education throughout their time at the Metro Center, beginning as early as the HSC program's welcome events at the beginning of each session. The Transition Specialist connects with ELL and HSC students during class and one-on-one and also works from the Admissions Office on Hawkeye's main campus one day per week to support former Metro students now enrolled in college. During this session, the Transition Specialist will describe the structures in place at Metro that support ELL and HSC students as they engage in planning their futures.



Collaboration Through Technology: Efforts to Align Curriculum and CCRS

presented by Bianca Sola-Perkins, Christina Kelly, and Jason Walker

How can a group of creative instructors and technology help your college implement the College and Career Readiness Standards (CCRS) into its program curriculum? Join Eastern Iowa Community College as they share their experience in utilizing Critical Friends Groups and Google Docs to align ABE/ASE/ELL curriculum and the CCRS. Become familiar with the term "Critical Friends Group" and explore ways of building effective instructional teams. Understand the role CASAS plays in helping to identify instructional gaps. Learn how to foster instructor collaboration, regardless of geographic barriers, through utilization of the cloud. Come and discover which methods work well, which ones do not, and the various resources that are available to help tackle the challenge of CCRS implementation.



Creating Connections to College and Career Readiness (Part 2)

presented by Sylvia Ramirez

College and career readiness in adult education starts within the ESL classroom. Participants in this session explore seven instructional strategies that focus on planning instruction for navigating complex text, acquiring academic vocabulary, citing textual evidence, and building knowledge from informational text. These are the key shifts in the CCR ELA Standards.



Developing Education Through Cooperation

presented by John Romeo and Debbie Dowell

As technology moves forward, Southeastern Community College and IowaWORKS of Southeast Iowa continue to develop a partnership that engages the next generation of a skilled labor force. Learn how Promethean Boards, Mimio Boards, iPads, personal computers, and calculators are integrated into an interactive engaging class that promotes students developing job skills while obtaining their education.



ETS HiSET®

presented by Jonna McDonough

ETS HiSET launched January 2, 2014, providing an alternative solution to High School Equivalency (HSE) in 10 states. Since launch, HiSET has become the fastest growing HSE assessment in the nation. This session provides an overview of HiSET and highlights flexible test delivery to special populations, including corrections and Job Corps.



The Power of Facilitation

presented by Tammy Rogers and Melynda DeCarlo

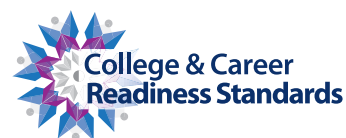
Think of a typical workshop. It's set up classroom style—with row after row of chairs. And the participants? They shuffle in ready for a session filled with PowerPoint slides and the attending "expert" that has all of the answers. Does this kind of passive participation lead to learning, retention, and behavior change? No, of course not. Adult students learn best when they are active and their brains are engaged. So what is the key? To shift from telling to facilitating. Facilitation demands exceptional interpersonal skills, keen observation, insight, and tact. The facilitator is a director, coach, and catalyst. They must create safe environments even as they push people out of their comfort zone. Facilitators must drive for results even as they allow participants to find their own answers. And they must lead the effort even as they give control to others.



Standards in Action—LITERALLY! An Introduction to Participatory Learning (Part 1)

presented by Michelle Carson

Iowa teachers and administrators have spent a good deal of time learning what to teach through the Standards in Action institutes over the last two years. Come learn more about one approach to enhance HOW you teach those standards as you develop new or redesign current lessons. This session will be engaging and participatory!



Working Together to Implement a New WIOA System Vision (Part 2)

presented by Greg Newton

Congress and the administration have big expectations for a revitalized workforce system—how will Iowa respond? Learn the five major WIOA themes and change drivers and how you will want (and need) to collaborate to meet the expectations to:

- Enhance partnerships and strengthen program alignment
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- Seek employer engagement and identify work-based learning opportunities



Session #3

Thursday, July 16 2:00 – 2:45 PM

Collaboration

presented by Kathy Olson

Research shows that people learn best by interacting with one another about things that they find personally meaningful. The brain likes and responds well to social engagement and oral sharing. Collaborative activities are designed so that every student is involved. According to David and Roger Johnson, “Cooperative learning promotes higher achievement than competitive and individualistic learning structures across all age levels, subject areas, and almost all tasks.” This session will provide many cooperative activities to enhance learning.



Connecting Collaborative Classroom Language and Workplace Soft Skills

presented by Sylvia Ramirez

The College and Career Readiness Standards for adult education emphasize the importance of collaboration in a variety of situations. To address the language of classroom collaboration, the presenter will demonstrate five activities for beginning through advanced ELL that connect academic language, classroom collaboration, and workplace soft skills. Participants will share ideas for adapting these tasks.



Engaging a HiSET® Classroom (Part 1)

presented by Frank Spillers

HiSET students often need a broader vision for their lives beyond the immediate goal of earning their high school diploma to take into the workplace or higher education. Daily, we expect students to rise to the challenges we set, sustain motivation in the face of difficulties, manage their time, balance their lives, know what it is they want, know where they are heading and how they are going to get there, and develop the skills to think independently.

Teaching concepts and illustrations primarily from our book, *The Be WUCA! Way*, *The ART of getting along*, we show you how to help students identify their passions, create a vision, and set goals for their life beyond the classroom. Additional exercises stimulate thought for more engaged, interested students and give permission to dream ideas that can create new businesses and/or transition into someday being part of existing businesses in their communities.



Reboot Your Digital Strategy (Part 1)

presented by Heather Erwin

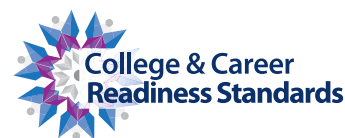
In this session, learn how your program and students can take advantage of national developments in digital literacy and access. Watch demos of helpful resources, websites, and tools to get your teachers, tutors, and students “connected.” Bring your own device (BYOD) to get a hands-on experience.



Standards in Action—LITERALLY! An Introduction to Participatory Learning (Part 2)

presented by Michelle Carson

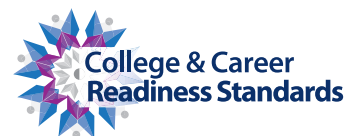
Continuation of Part 1, during this session, participants will participate in content-specific mini lessons and walk away with ideas, sample materials, and activities that can be replicated in their classrooms.



Workshop for Mathematics CCR Standards in Action (Part 1)

presented by Robbin Rekemeyer and Virginia Styron

Little material has been dispersed at present in the CCR area of mathematics. This session offers an opportunity to receive some of the CCR documents that contain mathematic standards information, as well as work with other mathematic instructors to move forward with units of instruction that align to the CCR standards. Teams who have not yet worked on lead standards are especially encouraged to attend.



Working Together to Implement a New WIOA System Vision (Part 1)

presented by Greg Newton

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Understanding Ourselves and Others Through REAL Colors (Part 1) ****Limited Space****

presented by Jean Brownlie

Most of us do not work in the ideal workplace, but we can learn how to clearly communicate our thoughts and ideas. You can learn how to recognize characteristics of people, which gives you valuable insight into why they may react to situations differently than others and how you can best communicate with them. This training is a fun, interactive way to learn how others perceive things, communicate, and learn in different ways. REAL Colors is a system for identifying the four temperaments (blue, gold, green, or orange) common to all people. It provides users with an effective tool for understanding human behavior, uncovering motivators specific to each temperament, and improving communication skills.



Session #4

Thursday, July 16 3:00 – 3:45 PM

Engaging a HiSET® Classroom (Part 2)

presented by Frank Spillers

HiSET students often need a broader vision for their lives beyond the immediate goal of earning their high school diploma to take into the workplace or higher education. Daily, we expect students to rise to the challenges we set, sustain motivation in the face of difficulties, manage their time, balance their lives, know what it is they want, know where they are heading and how they are going to get there, and develop the skills to think independently.

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How to Teach so Students Remember

presented by Kathy Olson

Brain research tells us many things about how students learn and remember. Some strong indicators concern the importance of activating prior knowledge, the significance of organization and coherence, and the importance of repetition for retention in any learning situation. Research also indicates that if you want students to remember something, make it memorable and provide variety. The presenter will provide participants with a variety of activities (music, movement, drama, costumes, drawing, graphic organizers, etc.) designed to provide valuable and varied repetition for all learner levels in a variety of content areas.



Let's Start at the Very Beginning—Alphabetics for Low Literacy Adults

presented by Barb Oakland

Though there are four components that intertwine for English language learners to become good readers in their new language, alphabetics is the necessary place to start. If students have missed or never learned letter sounds, they won't understand the keys to decoding new words. We'll practice several fun and rhythmic ways to help students isolate letter sounds so they can better manipulate the English language.



Reboot Your Digital Strategy (Part 2)

presented by Heather Erwin

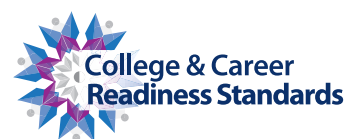
In this session, learn how your program and students can take advantage of national developments in digital literacy and access. Watch demos of helpful resources, websites, and tools to get your teachers, tutors, and students "connected." Bring your own device (BYOD) to get a hands-on experience.



Workshop for Mathematics CCR Standards in Action (Part 2)

presented by Robbin Rekemeyer and Virginia Styron

Little material has been dispersed at present in the CCR area of mathematics. This session offers an opportunity to receive some of the CCR documents that contain mathematic standards information, as well as work with other mathematic instructors to move forward with units of instruction that align to the CCR standards. Teams who have not yet worked on lead standards are especially encouraged to attend.



Working Together: Iowa Core Employability Skills, Adult Education CCR Standards, and the CTE Employability Skills Framework

presented by Michelle Carson

What do these three have in common? As an adult education teacher, how do you integrate them and make sure you are preparing your learners for success? This session will provide an introduction to each of these three components for developing 21st century skills in your adult learners. Participants will learn more about the relevant parts of each and identify what they need to move forward with planning instruction that is designed to prepare learners for entering careers and/or postsecondary education—even while attending adult education classes!



Working Together to Implement a New WIOA System Vision (Part 2)

presented by Greg Newton

Congress and the administration have big expectations for a revitalized workforce system—how will Iowa respond? Learn the five major WIOA themes and change drivers and how you will want (and need) to collaborate to meet the expectations to:

- Enhance partnerships and strengthen program alignment
- Increase system, program, and service access
- Achieve skills and credentials and employment outcomes
- Develop career pathways for workers to support industry talent pipelines
- Seek employer engagement and identify work-based learning opportunities



Understanding Ourselves and Others Through REAL Colors (Part 2)

****Limited Space****

presented by Jean Brownlie

Most of us do not work in the ideal workplace, but we can learn how to clearly communicate our thoughts and ideas. You can learn how to recognize characteristics of people, which gives you valuable insight into why they may react to situations differently than others and how you can best communicate with them. This training is a fun, interactive way to learn how others perceive things, communicate, and learn in different ways. REAL Colors is a system for identifying the four temperaments (blue, gold, green, or orange) common to all people. It provides users with an effective tool for understanding human behavior, uncovering motivators specific to each temperament, and improving communication skills.



Session #5

Friday, July 17 8:30 – 9:15 AM

Accelerated Opportunities Framework: How Do We Deliver Adult Basic Education? How Do We Make Career Pathways Our Own?

Presented by Susan Fish and Bevan Gibson

This session will focus on what Illinois and Kansas have done to deliver career pathways within their ABE programs. Participants will learn how to begin systems change to reflect the WIOA requirements and allow for success in their programs.



Algebra! Algebra! Algebra! Preparing for the New HSE Assessments

presented by Dan Griffith

The new algebra requirements on HSE assessments require students to have a clear and thorough understanding of the algebra of lines. This session will review teaching these key concepts, look at items often missed and ways to help learners succeed on those items, and discuss ways to motivate students in difficult subject areas. This is an interactive session, so bring a sharp pencil and prepare to have some fun finding the keys to great algebra instruction!



BurlingtonEnglish: An Official CASAS Preparation Course for Your Program's Success

presented by Robert Breitbard and Margo Hernandez

BurlingtonEnglish has been endorsed as an Official CASAS Partner! This easy-to-use dynamic program is the Official CASAS Preparation Course educators are using nationally to put their students in the best position for the greatest assessment performance. Find out how easy it is for students working through our complete suite of courses and CASAS assessment practice—whether on site or at a distance—to achieve great outcomes on the CASAS test. Teachers have everything they need: simple, ready-to-use, in-class projectable lessons and printable resources to target CASAS standards effortlessly. The at-a-glance progress reporting allows for enhanced targeting of instruction so students can master the competencies, all the while reducing test anxiety by taking our practice tests. Come see how you can boost your program's performance with these powerful tools.



Five Tasks to Connect ESL Reading and Writing Skills

presented by Sylvia Ramirez

The College and Career Readiness Standards for adult education emphasize the importance of linking reading and writing skills. The presenter will demonstrate five tasks that connect these two important communication skills. The teaching examples will cover beginning through advanced ELL proficiency levels. Participants will share ideas for adapting these tasks in their classrooms.



Here Today, Gone Tomorrow: Learner Persistence

presented by Kathy Olson

Why do some students persist and others don't? This session covers the current research on persistence, identifies those factors that have been shown to make a difference, and provides a variety of stimulating activities to address those factors.



Infographics: Developing a Critical Mindset Toward Data (Part 1)

presented by Brooke Iestas

An infographic is a visual image, such as a chart or diagram, used to represent information or data. Understanding infographics and data visualization is an increasingly important skill in the 21st century. This workshop is designed to increase adult education practitioners' comfort and skill with introducing data and statistics to learners. Participants will be introduced to infographics and how to evaluate infographics using a critical mindset based on a foundational knowledge of data and statistics. Activities conducted with workshop participants can be adapted for use with adult learners in the math classroom. These activities are designed to empower adult learners to analyze and interpret information they encounter in their daily lives in order to make better, more informed decisions as citizens and consumers.



Partnering to Deliver WIOA "Career Services" (Part 1)

presented by Greg Newton

WIOA makes big changes in how One-Stop System and Center customers are served and the services they receive. Are you ready to deliver the 13 required "career services"? Which services will you need to enhance—and what will you need to add? How will you partner to deliver these services and help customers access the expanded service menu? When you attend this workshop, you will learn the services WIOA requires and how to partner to make them work for your customers, your program, and you.



Understanding Ourselves and Others Through REAL Colors (Part 1)

****Limited Space****

presented by Jean Brownlie

Most of us do not work in the ideal workplace, but we can learn how to clearly communicate our thoughts and ideas. You can learn how to recognize characteristics of people, which gives you valuable insight into why they may react to situations differently than others and how you can best communicate with them. This training is a fun, interactive way to learn how others perceive things, communicate, and learn in different ways. REAL Colors is a system for identifying the four temperaments (blue, gold, green, or orange) common to all people. It provides users with an effective tool for understanding human behavior, uncovering motivators specific to each temperament, and improving communication skills.



Session #6

Friday, July 17 9:30 – 10:15 AM

Infographics: Developing a Critical Mindset Toward Data (Part 2)

presented by Brooke Istas

An infographic is a visual image, such as a chart or diagram, used to represent information or data. Understanding infographics and data visualization is an increasingly important skill in the 21st century. This workshop is designed to increase adult education practitioners' comfort and skill with introducing data and statistics to learners. Participants will be introduced to infographics and how to evaluate infographics using a critical mindset based on a foundational knowledge of data and statistics. Activities conducted with workshop participants can be adapted for use with adult learners in the math classroom. These activities are designed to empower adult learners to analyze and interpret information they encounter in their daily lives in order to make better, more informed decisions as citizens and consumers.



Learning Vocabulary

presented by Kathy Olson

Vocabulary knowledge affects learner success in every area. The depth and breadth of one's vocabulary has a significant impact on how well one reads, writes, listens, and speaks. This presentation will focus on research-supported methods for improving vocabulary learning. The participants will be provided with a wide range of activities that can be used to increase vocabulary knowledge.



Lessons Learned in Career Pathways Enrollment, Retention, & Follow-up

presented by Susan Fish (Kansas), Bevan Gibson (Illinois), Karen Showers, and Cara Bowman (Wisconsin)

This panel discussion will address the lessons these three states have learned in establishing career pathways. Topics will include definitions of career pathways and the partnerships necessary to make them happen. Discussion will also include instructional approaches, support services, enrollment, retention and follow-up strategies, and local and state policies.



Lessons Learned From a Pilot I-BEST CNC/ABE/ELL Class

presented by Jennette Shepard, Tyler Nolting, Robert Mosley, and Jerome Amos

This presentation will present lessons learned from an I-BEST/CNC machining course pilot at Hawkeye Community College's Metro Center. Following the nationally recognized I-BEST (Integrated Basic Education and Skills Training) model, this class was co-taught by four educators: an ELL teacher, an ABE teacher, and two professional content experts. The intent of this course was to boost ABE and ELL students' basic skills while engaging them in a certificate and college credit machining program. Presenters will describe the program implementation and discuss suggestions for implementing a similar program.



Living in America—What Every Immigrant Needs to Know but May Not Ask

presented by Trena Anderson

This interactive workshop will illuminate the scope of legal, systematic, and cultural knowledge a newcomer to the U.S. needs to succeed. A wide range of topics will be covered using The Immigrant Guide booklet to showcase the breadth of knowledge immigrants need. This session will model a variety of ways to share cultural literacy with the adult learners in your program (and we'll have fun!)



Partnering to Deliver WIOA “Career Services” (Part 2)

presented by Greg Newton

WIOA makes big changes in how One-Stop System and Center customers are served and the services they receive. Are you ready to deliver the 13 required “career services”? Which services will you need to enhance—and what will you need to add? How will you partner to deliver these services and help customers access the expanded service menu? When you attend this workshop, you will learn the services WIOA requires and how to partner to make them work for your customers, your program, and you.



Rebooting Iowa’s Literacy Council

presented by past Council members and Capture Marketing

Come listen to a roundtable discussion on the re-creation of Iowa’s Literacy Council. This future non-profit 501(c)(3) organization will aid Iowa’s Adult Education and Literacy members by implementing new strategies for administering professional development opportunities, organizing the annual AEL conference, and marketing adult education and literacy services (including health, digital, and financial literacy) throughout the state. Come listen to the speakers and see what new changes are in store for this Iowa grassroots literacy initiative!



Understanding Ourselves and Others Through REAL Colors (Part 2)

****Limited Space****

presented by Jean Brownlie

Most of us do not work in the ideal workplace, but we can learn how to clearly communicate our thoughts and ideas. You can learn how to recognize characteristics of people, which gives you valuable insight into why they may react to situations differently than others and how you can best communicate with them. This training is a fun, interactive way to learn how others perceive things, communicate, and learn in different ways. REAL Colors is a system for identifying the four temperaments (blue, gold, green, or orange) common to all people. It provides users with an effective tool for understanding human behavior, uncovering motivators specific to each temperament, and improving communication skills.



Session #7

Friday, July 17 10:45 – 11:30 AM

Benchmarks and Promising Practices: The WIOA Title I and Title II Partnership

presented by Greg Newton

Learn what other states and local areas are doing to build even stronger partnerships and move forward with WIOA implementation. In this rapid-fire session, a panel will discuss:

- Current plans and activities in building the WIOA Title I/II partnership
- Challenges confronted and lessons learned
- Recommendations for next steps and continuous improvement



Career Extensions

presented by Margo Hernandez

Help students get a job, keep a job, and get a better one! When we ask adult learners what motivates them to come to school, the most common answer is work. This session will show you how you can help your students with their career goals. We offer more than 30 career-specific courses and wordlists that allow students to work within a parallel process, learning both vocabulary and work-related expectations. These courses will help students identify career options and expedite their learning in order to reach their career goals sooner. These courses are designed to increase student engagement and persistence for ABE and ESL learners alike.



ETS HiSET®

presented by Jonna McDonough

ETS HiSET launched January 2, 2014, providing an alternative solution to High School Equivalency (HSE) in 10 states. Since launch, HiSET has become the fastest growing HSE assessment in the nation. This session provides an overview of HiSET and highlights flexible test delivery to special populations, including corrections and Job Corps.



Hybrid ELL: Lessons Learned From a Pilot Course

presented by Tara Plouff and Tyler Nolting

As higher education and job training instruction become increasingly computer-based, it is imperative that adult ELL students be exposed to the technology and methods they are likely to encounter at work or school. Through the use of a hybrid ELL course, students can gain valuable computer skills, become familiar with computer-based instruction, and study English language skills from home using interactive materials. In January 2015, Hawkeye Community College piloted its first hybrid ELL course with the web-based language program BurlingtonEnglish. Through the hard work and dedication of the ELL staff and faculty, this hybrid pilot has undergone an expansive transformation that began with computer-based ELL instruction, evolved to include job-necessary computer skills, and is now acting as a bridge for students who wish to continue their education beyond English language skills. In this presentation, we will introduce our hybrid program, detailing our motivation, decision rationales, successes, and missteps. We hope to collaborate with other institutions in order to improve our program and encourage other schools to develop their own hybrid courses.



Infographics: Developing a Critical Mindset Toward Data (Part 3)

presented by Brooke Istas

An infographic is a visual image, such as a chart or diagram, used to represent information or data. Understanding infographics and data visualization is an increasingly important skill in the 21st century. This workshop is designed to increase adult education practitioners' comfort and skill with introducing data and statistics to learners. Participants will be introduced to infographics and how to evaluate infographics using a critical mindset based on a foundational knowledge of data and statistics. Activities conducted with workshop participants can be adapted for use with adult learners in the math classroom. These activities are designed to empower adult learners to analyze and interpret information they encounter in their daily lives in order to make better, more informed decisions as citizens and consumers.



Learn the Key to Cracking the Code of Social Studies

presented by Barb Scholtens

Participants will explore different teaching models and develop strategies for presenting the scope of social studies, including engaging and effective classroom practices and activities in teaching social studies. Resources include how-to instructions, hands-on games, maps, hardcopies, and internet/computer-based resources.



On the Road to Career Pathway Success

presented by Karen Showers and Cara Bowman

Wisconsin has been engaged in the work of career pathway development for many years with innovations emerging from adult basic education instructional development and delivery. Career pathway work has taken some twists and turns and is about to merge and converge with a new trend of stacking credentials to support the new workforce reality of life-long learning. Career pathways are supported with system-wide policy as well as rewarded with outcome-based performance funding. The Wisconsin Technical College System and the state's Department of Workforce Development have partnered with employers and support services to bring greater opportunities to students as well as a more highly skilled workforce to employers. Karen Showers and Cara Bowman will bring both a brief historical and system-wide perspective to the work of career pathway development as well as the nuts of bolts of implementing the five steps of career pathway development.



A Triple Crown of Technology Resources for ABE: KeyTrain, CareerReady101, and Learning Express Library

presented by Jared Reed

Looking for new ways to help learners improve their basic skills in reading and math while incorporating technology into the learning process? Are you seeking an additional resource to help learners prepare for the HiSET? KeyTrain, CareerReady101, and Learning Express Library are three online resources that are free, user-friendly, and available to help you provide additional instruction.



Keynote Presenter



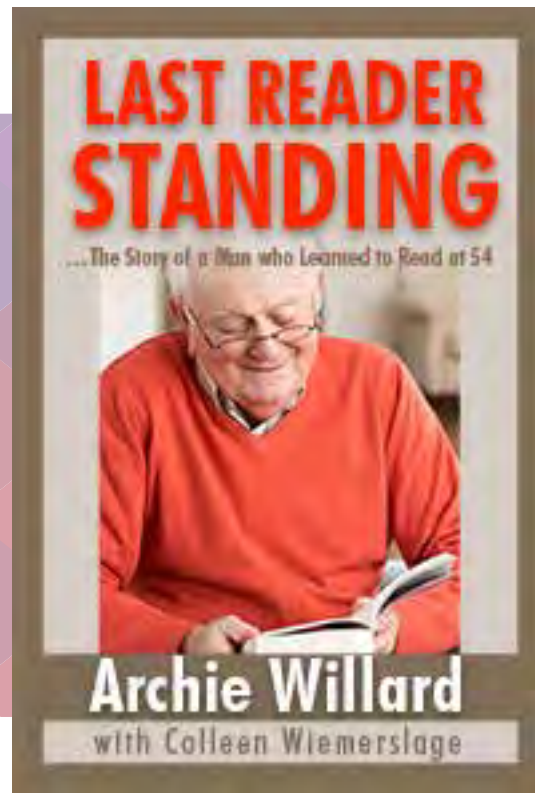
Byron T. Embry

Thursday, July 16th
12:30 PM – Auditorium

Byron T. Embry is CEO and founder of Closing Remarks LLC, a premier leadership development and communications organization. Byron has used his 12 years of experience as a professional baseball player to establish himself as an international speaker. He is regarded by many to be one of the most dynamic speakers in the world relating to leadership and personal and professional development.

As a “closer” during his baseball career, Byron learned early on that closers are generally the team’s most dominate pitchers, selected to pitch the last few outs of a game when the win is on the line. Teams that win championships often have the most consistent closers. Byron discovered that being a champion in life is not much different—it takes passion, consistency, and desire. “As a closer, you come in when the game is on the line,” says Embry. “A closer makes certain that his team comes out ahead. Corporations, families, and organizations do not need more leaders; they need more closers.”

Capstone Speaker



Archie Willard

Friday, July 17th

12:30 PM – General Sessions

Archie Willard lost his 31-year job as a laborer at a meat packing company and was then forced to confront the secret he had held so closely for most of his life: at the age of 54, he couldn't read. Forced to find a new job to support his family, he could no longer hide from the truth and went on his journey of becoming literate at middle age and his struggle with dyslexia. At the age of 84 this Iowa native continues to work with literacy issues in medicine and consumerism.

Network Activity

LIVE UNITED

**United
Way**



United Way of Central Iowa

Friday, July 17th

1:00 PM – General Sessions

This wrap-up will be focused on networking with our community-based partners. While the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014 will drive alignment with core partners, there are other community relationships that must be built. A recent initiative of Central Iowa's United Way has pulled together a diverse group of community stakeholders to plan how to help an additional 10,000 Central Iowans earn their high school equivalency diploma by 2020.

Today, over 33,000 Central Iowans—six percent of the population—do not have their high school diploma or equivalent. They are much more likely to be unemployed. And they only qualify for low-skill jobs because they lack education and training.

Partnerships will help:

- Create shared understanding about the needs in our community
- Focus on the barriers facing an individual pursuing a high school equivalency diploma
- Show you what YOU can do to help

Presented by Helene Grossman, Ph.D., Community Impact Services Director, and Renee Miller, Community Impact Officer.

Earn Your High School Equivalency Diploma

**YOUR FUTURE
STARTS HERE**
Adult Education & Literacy



"Earning my HSED has given me hope for the future and the power to change my life and my son's life."

- Jen Barker



"I earned my HSED to be a role model for my children and show them that an education is very important."

- Victor Harris



"If I could do it, everybody can do it. You have the option to take it in Spanish or English."

- Beatriz Castro

Continue Your Education or Start Your Career

**To find your local program call
1.800.316.6850 & or visit us at
www.yourfuturestartshereiowa.com.**

Presenters

Cheryl Almack is the Lead Instructor at the Re-engagement Center in the Iowa Works offices in Burlington, Iowa. She has been involved in teaching for 23 years with a primary focus of AEL instructor for 15 years. She encourages students to become digitally fluent because she is aware technology is key to employment success.

Jerome Amos is an instructor at Hawkeye Community College. He teaches CNC machining for the I-BEST ABE/ELL program at the Metro Center and blueprint reading at the Center for Business and Industry. He is a retired John Deere machinist of 33 years.

Trena Anderson has been an instructor for over 20 years, teaching ESOL at community, outreach, and workplace sites. She has a B.S. in education from the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater and is completing her M.S. in adult learning with a concentration in TESOL from the University of Wisconsin-Platteville. Trena has served as the Instructional Coordinator at the Jefferson County Literacy Council and is currently the SW/SC Regional Consultant with Wisconsin Literacy, a state coalition of community literacy agencies.

Cara Bowman is the Career Pathway Coordinator for Waukesha County Technical College. Cara has 10+ years of technical college and workforce experience. For the past three years, she has created and supported innovative programming for adult learners in basic education. Prior to her technical college work, Cara managed the Workforce Investment (WIA) teams for her county/region.

Robert Brietbard (BurlingtonEnglish) has more than 20 years as a teacher at both K-12 and adult education levels, as a Adult English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Coordinator, and finally as a Director of Adult & Community Education. He also served for a decade on the board of directors of Florida's adult education professional organization, ACE of Florida, and was elected its president in 2008. He now directs educational partnerships for BurlingtonEnglish. His work includes helping schools and colleges enhance their programs for those learning English. He uses his expertise by helping educators create programs that emphasize English language learning that focuses on students choosing career pathways and learning needed life skills.

Jean Brownlie, B.A., M.A., L.M.S.W., created WorkerSmarts to specialize in customized training and consulting addressing "people issues" to create a culture where people enjoy coming to work. She is a certified trainer for REAL Colors with a specialty in conflict resolution as well as AchieveGlobal in leadership and customer service trainings. She spent 10 years as a Business Solutions Consultant with Iowa Valley Business Resources assisting area businesses in identifying issues, finding resources, and conducting job success trainings.

Michelle Carson possesses more than 20 years of experience in the fields of adult, career and technical education, and higher education at the local, state, and national levels. Currently, she is the Managing Partner of Carson Consulting & Training LLC and is a consultant and professional developer for several projects as well as a U.S. Department of Education National Trainer in College and Career Standards for LINCS. Carson specializes in assisting states, organizations, and local programs with adult education and workforce development needs.

Melynda DeCarlo (Meyvn Group) is a former National and Regional Training Director. She is an Organizational Development Specialist and holds a Senior Professional in Human Resources Certification (SPHR) through SHRM. As a Certified Coach she is committed to expanding capacity and promoting growth in individuals, teams, and organizations. Her approach is practical, dynamic, and

interactive. Melynda gives clients the benefit of nearly 20 years' experience in providing the time, talent, and tactical planning necessary to move from strategy to execution. She is an Operational Strategist, a Master Facilitator, and a Custom Design Trainer. Her clients include many Fortune 500 companies.

Debbie Dowell has over 25 years of professional experience in training and development and is a Certified Workforce Development Professional. Debbie is the Regional Director of IowaWORKS, an integrated One-Stop Career Center in Burlington. She has been recognized by the Department of Labor for her innovation and collaboration with community partners in delivering services to TANF recipients, youth, and adult/dislocated workers.

Byron Embry pitched 12 seasons in professional baseball for teams such as the Braves, Royals, and Mariners. Born and raised in Richmond, Kentucky, Byron attended Madison Central High School and was drafted by the Oakland Athletics after his senior year. Declining to sign with the Athletics, Byron attended Indian Hills Community College in Iowa, where he pitched in the National Junior College World Series for the Falcons in both 1996 and 1997. At the end of his sophomore year, Byron signed with the Atlanta Braves in May 1997. Byron remained in the Braves' system until he was released by the club in March 2000. While his career was at a crossroads in 2000, Byron married his wife, Kelly, and the young couple moved to Lincoln, Nebraska, as Byron signed to play for the Lincoln Saltdogs of the Northern Independent League. His 2001 season was cut short by an elbow injury forcing the Lincoln Independent League to release him. While recovering from the elbow surgery and contemplating his future in baseball, Byron and his wife remained in Lincoln that offseason when someone gave him an idea. "A sports reporter from the local TV station told me that I should stay around town and give pitching lessons. And to be honest, I didn't really know enough about pitching to teach it. It was just something I did," says Byron. In the fall of 2001, after Byron worked with a few pitchers for a couple of weeks, the baseball community of Lincoln noticed a radical change in their development. As word-of-mouth spread, what started out as a few pitchers turned into the teaching of over 50, giving birth to Pitching 101. "I found out that the best way to learn something is to teach it. It is fair to say that I learned as much about pitching as they did. By teaching it, I realized that I had some of the same issues the kids had," Byron said jokingly. By understanding the art of pitching through teaching others, Byron drastically enhanced his own skillset. As his fastball velocity eventually reached as high as 102 mph, Byron signed with the Kansas City Royals and finished his career with the Seattle Mariners. During his off seasons, he continued to work with every pitcher he could. Today, Byron has helped develop over 5,000 pitchers across the globe and worked as consultant to dozens of high school and collegiate programs. More so than training pitchers, his journey through life and baseball lead to Byron becoming an award-winning international keynote speaker who has been featured in a plethora of media and internet outlets all over the world. His appearance on TBN in July was captured by over 300 million viewers. He currently resides in Colorado Springs, Colorado, with his lovely wife, Kelly, and their four children.

Heather Erwin (LINCS) works as an education and technology consultant for agencies serving incarcerated students. Within LINCS, she currently serves as the subject matter expert for the LINCS Community's Correctional Education Group. As a consultant to the National Correctional Education Association (CEA) Heather helped launch the first successful implementation of handheld mobile devices delivering educational resources to secure classrooms. She has participated in a number of Department of Education and White House sponsored conferences and working groups focused on advancing the use of technology to deliver education content to incarcerated students, aiding reentry and reducing recidivism rates. Heather is co-founder of the non-profit Unlocking Education, Inc. and co-author of the Department of Education sponsored policy brief Education Technology

in Corrections (2015). Heather is a graduate of the University of Iowa College of Law and current doctoral student, specializing in adult education, at Northcentral University.

Genae Ewing is an instructor at the Iowa Medical Classification Center.

Susan Fish is the Director of Adult Education at the Kansas Board of Regents, which governs state universities and coordinates community and technical colleges in Kansas. As State Director, she oversees 24 school district, community-based organization, and two-year college programs funded by the federal Adult Education and Family Literacy Act. She also coordinates the board of regents' efforts in transforming developmental education. Before coming to Kansas, she worked with adult education and developmental education in community colleges in Oregon and Washington. She holds a master's degree from Auburn University and a Ph.D. from Oregon State University.

Bevan Gibson is the director of the Southern Illinois Professional Development Center and has 20+ years of experience in adult education. She worked with the Illinois Shifting Gears project, the Accelerating Opportunity colleges in Illinois, and the Illinois Community College Board to provide professional development and technical assistance. She and her team have developed statewide bridge curricula in healthcare; manufacturing; and transportation, distribution, and logistics.

Dan Griffith currently serves as National Sales Manager for Essential Education. He began his publishing career in 1996 with Houghton Mifflin and has worked in many aspects of the field. Prior to coming to Essential Education, Dan was Senior Vice-President/General Manager of Steck-Vaughn and, before that, National Sales Director for Contemporary/McGraw-Hill. Dan graduated summa cum laude from Northern Arizona University with a degree in mathematics education in 1993. He taught both high school and community college mathematics before moving into publishing. As a high school dropout who later got his GED in Colorado, Dan has come full circle in education through his career. Dan is a father of five children and a husband to a very patient wife. He enjoys trucks, motorcycles, dogs, and anything that gets him outside.

Helene Grossman, Ph.D., is the Director of Community Impact Services for United Way of Central Iowa. In this position, Helene oversees the data and accountability work related to community impact work in education, income, and health. She was the former State Director for Adult Literacy and has worked for Heartland AEA, Des Moines Public Schools, and Marshalltown Community Schools as an educator and consultant.

Brenda Hack holds a master's degree in education and brings 30 plus years of classroom experience to her field. She is an Instructor/Coordinator at Kirkwood Community College in the High School Completion Programs. Brenda teaches HiSET preparation classes and works with staff at Kirkwood's regional campuses. She has been a trainer for the University of Kansas in Strategic Instruction Model and in Content Enhancement routines. While at Kirkwood Brenda has provided professional development for staff in Standards in Action implementation. When not in the classroom, you can find her in the yoga studio, where she is an E-RYT 500 yoga instructor, or paddling her kayak.

Brenda Hampton is the Education Coordinator for Kirkwood Community College's correctional programs at the Iowa Medical Classification Center and has been active in adult education for 20 Years. She has a master's degree from State University of New York at Buffalo in reading education and holds Iowa licenses in both reading and English K-12. Brenda is also a member of the Iowa Literacy Council as a representative for correctional education programs.

Margo Hernandez (BurlingtonEnglish) is currently a Customer Manager for BurlingtonEnglish. Her professional experience includes supervisor of the Northside (NISD) Adult Education Distance Learning Program, trainer for Region XX, statewide trainer for Texas Learns Training of Trainers (TOT) Distance Learning Academy, certified educator in early childhood (PreK – K), 1st – 6th grade,

ESOL, and Texas principal certification. Her professional organization affiliates are President of Texas Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages (TexTESOL II), chairperson of TexTESOL II Advocacy, TexTESOL Council of Presidents, International TESOL, TALEA, and the Texas Distance Learning Association Leadership.

Brooke Istas is a professor of mathematics at Cowley College. She is state and nationally recognized for her knowledge of mathematical concepts and continued dedication to supporting adults with their educational goals. She began working in adult education in 2001 as a mathematics tutor and moved to the Cowley College Adult Education and College Preparation Program in 2006 until 2014. Brooke is also the moderator for the LINCS Community Math and Numeracy, Financial Literacy, and Correctional Education groups and a reviewer for the Math and Numeracy and Science Resource Collection.

Christina Kelly is currently employed at Eastern Iowa Community College at the West Davenport center as the lead instructor.

Anna Laneville is the Transition Specialist at Hawkeye Community College's Metro Center in Waterloo, Iowa. Anna also teaches English at Hawkeye part time. Before coming to Hawkeye, Anna taught developmental and college-level English at Normandale Community College in Bloomington, Minnesota. Anna also served as a TRIO academic advisor at Normandale before teaching. Anna earned her Bachelor of Arts in English and Spanish and her Master of Arts in English from the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, Minnesota.

Jonna McDonough is a HiSET Regional Director who joined the HiSET team in January 2014. She is Iowa's liaison to the HiSET program, working to promote access and opportunity for HiSET candidates throughout the state. Prior to joining ETS in 2012, Jonna taught at-risk youth in grades 6 – 8 in English and reading.

Renee Miller has a Master of Science degree in counseling and human resource development and currently serves as the Community Impact Officer at United Way of Central Iowa, where she leads the core priority area of income/financial stability. In this capacity, she manages a multimillion dollar budget with an emphasis on poverty reduction strategies, including adult basic education and training. Prior to joining United Way, she served as Bureau Chief for Iowa Workforce Development, where she had responsibility for 55 field offices and six strategic statewide initiatives funded by the State of Iowa General Fund, federal funding, and competitive grants with an annual budget of more than \$35 million. As a Business Consultant with Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC) Miller provided expert guidance to diverse business/industry, economic developers, educators, workforce organizations, and community-based organizations to design and deliver customized workforce solutions. As Executive Director for DMACC's Iowa Employment Solutions she led a team of 106 staff and collaborated with a 41-member regional workforce board to establish and execute strategic priorities for a fully integrated employment and training system in Central Iowa. Miller lives in Pleasant Hill, Iowa, with her husband, Ryan, and eight-year-old daughter, Emerson.

Anne Morgan has her B.A. and M.A. from Truman State and Specialist from Drake. She is retired from Davis County Schools in Bloomfield, Iowa, where she worked for 35 years and ended her tenure as superintendent. Previously she was an educator for 25 years, focused on curriculum and technology and serving as middle school principal. She previously taught 25 years; curriculum, technology and middle school principal. She worked as an independent contractor for eight years, during which time she worked for Great Prairie as a part-time leadership consultant. Anne has done Fierce conversations training for eight years. She has a son and daughter as well as three grandchildren and lives in Bloomfield.

Robert Mosley is a CNC machining instructor for the I-BEST ABE/ELL program at Hawkeye Community College's Metro Center. He is a retired John Deere employee of 30 years and has a background as a tool maker, machinist, industrial electrician, and industrial electrical machine repair person.

Greg Newton has provided training and technical assistance services to the workforce system since 1982 and has provided services in all 50 states (and the District of Columbia) to over 280,000 workforce professionals and over 240 local and state workforce areas. He has journeyed with states and local areas across the country in helping them successfully implement the transitions from CETA to JTPA, JTPA to WIA, and now WIA to WIOA. This history and experience means he not only has a pretty good idea of where we're going but also how it fits within the context of where we've been. He is known for making workforce policy understandable and translating the legalities into practical, real-world, operational solutions.

Tyler Nolting was hired at Hawkeye Community College in October 2014 as the English Language Learning (ELL)/Integrated Basic Education and Skills Training (I-BEST) Lead Instructor/Coordinator for the CNC machining program. This role has allowed him to team teach with two John Deere retirees who worked in machine operation and machine/electrical maintenance. Tyler has a B.S. and master's degree from Indiana University-Bloomington (IUB) and is currently working on his Ph.D. at IUB.

Barb Oakland is currently enjoying teaching a literacy level English class at Kirkwood Community College. She has taught various levels of adult language learners at four different community colleges across the state. As an ESL specialist, she regularly incorporates new techniques in her classroom to help her students become comfortable with their new language, feeling free to experiment with it in the classroom and in the community.

Kathy Olson is a former National Institute for Literacy fellow and has extensive experience in teaching, teacher training, curriculum design, and materials development. She has been teaching and training in ESL for more than 25 years. She presents extensively statewide, nationally, and internationally on a wide variety of topics.

Joel Pedersen has been a strong leader and advocate for positive school and workplace culture throughout his career. His servant leadership attitude and passion for building positive relationships have created a powerful movement in southeast Iowa, radically changing the culture of education. Joel also works with businesses to identify barriers to a positive workplace culture by sharing lessons he has learned with regards to organizational change.

Tara Plouff has taught ESL for seven years in three countries: one year in Japan, five years in South Korea, and one year in the U.S. She currently teaches hybrid ELL classes and a bridge-to-college preparatory course at Hawkeye Community College's Metro Center. She is currently working towards a graduate certificate in instructional technology and design from the University of Wisconsin-Stout.

Sylvia Ramirez is a Professor Emeritus at MiraCosta College. As program coordinator and department chair at the college, she provided leadership in establishing Managed Enrollment, Student Learning Outcomes, and Transitioning Adults to Academic and Career Preparation. Her more than 40 years in adult ESL include multilevel ESL, vocational ESL, family literacy, distance learning, and college and career readiness.

Jared Reed is the Lead Navigator for the Pathways for Academic Career Employment (PACE) program at Southeastern Community College in West Burlington, Iowa. Prior to this role, Jared was a Pre-Employment Training Facilitator through the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) program from January 2013 through January 2015. Jared has over two years of experience working in adult education and workforce development and over five years of experience working with students in the community college environment. Jared has a Master of Arts degree in geography from Western Illinois University

and a Bachelor of Science degree with majors in geography and political science from Central Michigan University.

Robbin Rekemeyer has been an instructor in the Adult High School Completion Program at Kirkwood Community College for the past year. Robbin has had a varied work career; having been employed in healthcare, retail management, and as an IRS employee before returning to school to earn secondary education endorsements in marketing, management, economics, and mathematics. She taught middle school and high school before employment at Kirkwood as a business/IT adjunct, health IT grant manager, and high school completion instructor. Robbin earned a B.S. in industrial administration from Iowa State University, an MBA from the University of Iowa, and teaching certifications in 2002 from Cornell College.

Tammy Rogers (Meyvn Group) is best known for helping leaders experience “Aha” moments in order to develop new ways of thinking, new attitudes, and new behaviors that transfer to the real world. Tammy is a certified coach. She’s been instrumental in nine business start-ups. She’s held vice president titles in both human resources and operations, and she has had the opportunity to lead more than 200 employees in remote offices from Boston to Los Angeles and Minneapolis to Atlanta. Tammy has written more than 50 internationally distributed training programs. She has worked with best-selling authors like James Autry and Bob Nelson. And she has partnered with hundreds of companies—both large and small—to help them improve results through the building of people, processes, and procedures.

John Romeo has been a member of the Southeastern Community College AEL team for over three years. He has a passion for teaching math and enjoys introducing new ways to present math concepts. John embraces technology and facilitates distance learning courses that incorporate all forms of technology.

Barb Scholtens has been teaching at the North Central Correctional Facility for 11 years and is the 2015 Correctional Education Association Iowa Teacher of the Year. She received her Bachelor of Science in education from Iowa State University and is currently working toward her Master of Education specializing in curriculum and instruction. Barb is a Standards in Action trainer and works with teachers to incorporate the College and Career Readiness Standards in their instruction. Barb also serves as the treasurer for the Iowa Chapter of the Corrections Education Association and as a correctional representative on the Iowa Literacy Council.

Jennette Shepard is the Student Success Lead Instructor/Coordinator at Hawkeye Community College’s Metro Center. This is her first year teaching adult education. She is implementing many new success initiatives for students, including teaching the pilot I-BEST CNC ABE/ELL class this spring. Jennette earned her B.A. in mathematics and teaching from Bowdoin College in Brunswick, Maine.

Karen Showers is Education Director of Counseling and Student Support for the Wisconsin Technical College System. She has more than 24 years’ combined experience in delivering career development and counseling services at the technical college level and providing consultation and leadership at the state level. Karen has been involved in career pathway development work with the state of Wisconsin for the past five years representing issues, concerns, and solutions in the delivery of supportive services to students in career pathway programs.

Bianca Sola-Perkins is the ABE/ELL/HSE Lead Instructor at Clinton Community College (EICC). Her 18 years of professional experience in higher education include faculty and program management, college/university teaching, management of faculty training and development, and conference and special project coordination. Bianca earned her Master of Education in educational leadership (community college emphasis) from Northern Arizona University and is currently working on her

Doctorate of Education, also in educational leadership (higher education emphasis), from Edgewood College. Her dissertation research is focused on examining the impact a professional therapy dog has on HSE student retention and graduation rates. Aside from work and school, Bianca enjoys spending time with her active family traveling and attending sporting events.

Frank Spillers, a South Dakota native, is an author, teacher, trainer, and speaker on building and sustaining civility in relationships. He has spent his career creating growth environments as a business owner and expert in relationship economic development at the local, state, and federal levels. With almost 30 years in rural development, Frank has a passionate specialty in developing leadership skills and behavioral changes for successful individual, business, community, school, and church growth.

Virginia Styron is a high school completion instructor with Kirkwood Community College. She has been involved in high school completion instruction since November 2011 at the Kirkwood Washington Regional Center. Prior to working for Kirkwood, Virginia earned a master's degree in school counseling and served for 13 years as a K-12 school counselor for WACO Schools. Undergraduate degrees include a Bachelor of Science in health and physical education from Missouri State with minors in science and social studies.

Kathy Tracey has been in adult education as an instructor and program manager and is now the i-Pathways Curriculum Director. With close to 18 years' experience in adult education, Kathy holds an M.S.Ed. with an emphasis in adult education and an Ed.S. with an emphasis in educational administration. Her areas of expertise include retention in online learning and curriculum development.

Jason Walker earned a B.A. in international relations and French from Morningside College and an M.A. in public administration from Western Illinois University. He taught English in Madagascar as a Peace Corps volunteer and has experience working as a community organizer and as a supervisor in corrections and human services settings. He currently works as the Lead Teacher for ABE/HSE/ELL at Muscatine Community College. While waiting for test results to come back from students, he enjoys running, biking, Crossfit, and spending time with his wife and one-year-old son.

Mary Weinand joined the Iowa State University Extension and Outreach staff in 1998 and has served as a human sciences and family finance educator since 2005. She received a BBA from St Mary's College and an MBA in finance from DePaul University. She has worked in the program areas of family finance education, resource management, entrepreneurship, and community development. She serves eight counties in Southeast Iowa as a family finance educator and is currently serving as the interim Regional Director for Region 20.

Archie Willard became a new reader at the age of 54 through the help of an adult literacy instructor at Iowa Central Community College. Since that time Archie has devoted his life to advocating for adults who don't know how to read or lack adequate reading skills. Archie has promoted this effort through organizations such as New Readers of Iowa, Pro-Literacy, Iowa Health System (Health Literacy Collaborative), VALUE (Voice of Adult Learners United for Education), and the Barbara Bush Literacy Foundation. Archie has written his autobiography along with Colleen Wiemerslage, *Last Reader Standing... The Story of a Man who Learned to Read at 54*. At the age of 84, Archie continues to work with literacy issues in medicine and consumerism.

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